

ARTHUR ZOUC^H his CASE, *in relation to the Royal AFRICAN COMPANY's Proceedings against him, as a Criminal, with their Servant HENRY BISHOP.*

Z^Ouch and *Bishop* having marry'd two Sisters, they contracted a Friendship, which has lasted for above Fourteen Years past : And *Bishop* had ever the Reputation of an honest Man, until the Sixth of *February* instant, when he absconded or run away with the Company's Books, Bills, Bonds, Notes, &c. as the said *Zouch* hath been inform'd.

That the said *Zouch* did the Sixth instant kindly invite the Wife of the said *Bishop*, and her Family, to his House; and did use his Endeavour to protect her useful and other Household Goods from the approaching Storm, that in all probability wou'd soon put them out of her power.

About Ten in the Evening of that Day a Letter came from *Zouch's* Sister by the hands of a Porter (the Company's Watchman) who guarded the Hall, and Goods, when any were there; which Letter did intreat the said *Zouch* to employ the said Porter in some trifling matters, whilst she remov'd her own Household Goods, her Apartment being within the Porter's Stand: And about One in the Morning *Zouch* wrote a Letter back in answer; and, he thinks, importing, that he had detain'd the Bearer as long as he could, and hop'd that she had before then remov'd her Goods; or Words to that effect. But he refers to it in Esquire *Pindar's* Possession.

The 7th instant at Ten of the Clock at night, a Constable, by virtue of Mr. Recorder's Warrant (which *Zouch* could never yet have a sight of) came into his House in *Middlesex*, attended by Esq; *Pindar*, Mr. Justice *Perry*, Agent *Cleeve*, and some others, all Members of the Society; and took *Zouch* out of his Bed, broke open several Locks in his House; and whilst Mr. Constable and others were in one Room upon the search, Mr. Agent *Cleeve* and others were at the same time in another Room upon the like Scent: and at length, by their great Cunning, they did find a large old Hamper of *Zouch's* Sister's (in a Room where most, if not all, her Goods were plac'd that were brought to his House) in which were several Parcels of old obsolete cancell'd Papers, which they say belong'd to the Company:

**Mrs. Bishop's*
Father was
House-keeper to
the Company 20
Years ago, and
she has liv'd
there ever since.

What they were *Zouch* knows not; but his Sister told him, * that she took them to be Papers belonging to her Mother's Family, there being several of them, amongst the others: And that they had been in her custody several Years, and believ'd they might be of no use to the Company but upon this occasion. About Two in the Morning he was carry'd before Sir *William Withers* Governour of the said Company, and one of her Majesty's Justices of the Peace, at his House in *London*, who was so kind to rise out of his Bed, to do his Friends Justice; and who having full knowledge of the Criminal before he came, soon determin'd to send him to *Newgate*, and would take care that he shou'd be brought before the Honourable House of Commons, from thence, in Seven or Eight Hours time: But upon *Zouch's* earnest Intercession to Mr. Justice, he was pleas'd to stop Execution, and had the liberty to go home.

Upon the Company's application to the Honourable House of Commons, *Zouch* was summon'd to attend the Honourable Committee; but being inform'd by Mr. *Bezaleel Knight*, who treated with the Company on the behalf of *Bishop*, that there was no need of *Zouch's* Attendance, and that *Knight* had acquainted the Company, that *Zouch* was ready to be examin'd whenever they should think fit. Since that, *Zouch* is inform'd, that the Committee came Saturday last to some Resolutions against *Bishop*, as likewise against *Zouch*, and that the Report will be made so soon as the House will please to receive it. And *Arthur Zouch* humbly hopes, that he may be examin'd by the said Committee, or heard by himself or Council, before this Honourable House will make any Order against him in this Affair.